

Voluntary - Public

Clearance Office: Office of Scientific and Technical Affairs (OSTA)

Date: 5/21/2009

GAIN Report Number: MX9034

Mexico

Post: Mexico

Mexico Bans Poultry Imports from Two Tennessee Counties

Report Categories:

Trade Policy Monitoring

Poultry and Products

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Approved By:

Allan Mustard

Prepared By:

Zaida San Juan

Report Highlights:

On May 15, 2009, the GOM informed USDA that imports of live birds, poultry meat products, and eggs not treated with a thermal process from Giles and Lincoln counties of the state of Tennessee are prohibited due to detection of low pathogenic avian influenza (LPAI). Cooked products are exempt. The GOM also updated the ban on Kentucky poultry products from two counties, removing the ban for one county and revising the effective date of the ban for the other county.

General Information:

IMPORT BAN FOR 2 TENNESSEE COUNTIES DUE TO INFLUENZA CASES

The Mexican Veterinary Service (SENASICA) has banned imports of live birds, poultry meat

products, and eggs not treated with a thermal process from the counties of Giles and Lincoln, Tennessee, due to recent findings of low pathogenic type H7N9 avian influenza in flocks of breeder chicks.

Specifically, on May 15, 2009, SENASICA communicated to USDA the ban of imports of poultry and poultry products from Giles county effective April 3, 2009, and from Lincoln county effective April 10, 2009. In each case the effective date is 21 days before the first confirmed event within the respective county. The SENASICA ban follows GOM regulations as outlined in the Mexican NOM 044-ZOO-1995 “Campaign against Avian Influenza”.

The import ban includes both products for retail or direct human consumption and for further processing or thermal treatment. Products subjected to a thermal treatment (cooked) are exempt from this prohibition.

UPDATE TO BAN ON TWO KENTUCKY COUNTIES

The revised HRZs noting the new restrictions on Tennessee poultry also included updates to the ban on Kentucky poultry products from two counties, removing the ban for one county and revising the effective date of the ban for the other county. SENASICA lifted the ban on products from Grayson county recognizing that no outbreak of LPAI occurred in the county. However, the new HRZs keep the ban imposed on poultry and poultry products from Edmonson county. Initially established on April 8, the ban is now extended to include prior production dates. The ban now includes all product produced after March 9, 2009 to take into account the 21-day period prior to detection as outlined under GOM regulations.

REGULATIONS FOR POULTRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS EXPORTS

Table 1 summarizes some of the regulations currently being implemented by the GOM for U.S. live poultry and poultry meat exports.

Table 1. Mexico: Current Import Regulations for Poultry and Poultry Products.				
ITEM	RAW POULTRY FOR RETAIL & FOR FURTHER PROCESSING	FULLY COOKED POULTRY MEAT AND EGG PRODUCTS	TABLE, SPF AND HATCHING EGGS	LIVE BIRDS
Export Status from All U.S. States 1/	YES 5	YES	YES 1 5	YES 5
Required Language On	YES	NO	YES	YES

Cleaning And Disinfection Of Trucks				
Required Sealing Of Trucks At Point Of Origin	NO	NO	NO	YES
Required Language that Product is Fit for Human Consumption and Freely Marketed in the U.S.	YES	NO	❷	❷
Agar Gel or ELISA Test Required	❸	NO	❸	❸
Certification Requirements On Exotic Newcastle Disease ❹	YES	YES	YES	YES
<p>1/ These imports are only approved to proceed to Federal Inspected Plants (TIF) meat processing facilities authorized by SAGARPA. The import of products and poultry by-products original of Arkansas, E.U.A. that come from birds sacrificed between May 10 until July 14, 2008 remains prohibited.</p> <p>❶ Boxes of table eggs as well as SPF eggs must show the stamp of the competent authority.</p> <p>❷ SPF, hatching eggs and live birds should be freely marketed in the U.S.</p> <p>❸ When a plant and farm/flock is registered under the National Poultry Improvement Plant (NPIP), the Agar Gel or ELISA test will not be required; otherwise the tests will be required by SAGARPA.</p> <p>❹ Exotic Newcastle Disease statement for meat, meat products and by products. - “That the product comes from flocks that have a monitoring program of 70 birds that began after 12 days of age, using viral isolation tests and identification of velogenic strains through a test that indicates intracerebral pathogenicity in chicks of one day of age and that is carried out for each lot that is delivered for slaughter, obtaining negative results for Velogenic Newcastle disease, or that comes from a country free of Velogenic Newcastle Disease.”</p> <p>❺ Imports of live birds, fresh eggs, poultry meat products and by products chilled and /or frozen are prohibited by the Mexican Government Authorities: As of March 9, 2009, from Edmonson County, Kentucky As of April 3, 2009, from Giles County, Tennessee As of April 10, 2009, from Lincoln County, Tennessee</p> <p>For additional information regarding poultry meat and egg products exports to Mexico see the FSIS Export Library at http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Regulations_&Policies/Mexico_Requirements/index.asp (Export Requirements for meat and poultry products).</p>				

The Mexican phyto-zoo-sanitary requirements sheets (HRZ's) for each kind of import product to Mexico are available at

<http://148.245.191.4/zooweb/inicio.aspx>

Source: SAGARPA/SENASICA/Animal Health Directorate.

Other Relevant Reports submitted by FAS/Mexico City

MX9022 Mexico Bans Poultry from 2 Kentucky Counties Due to Avian Influenza

MX9004 Poultry and Products, Semi-Annual